



*One Hundred Years Ago, On December 3, 1839, Abraham Lincoln Was Admitted To Practice Law In The Federal Circuit Court At Springfield.*



*The Christian Church  
At Springfield*



Dr. Louis A. Warren

Lincoln National Life  
Foundation

Fort Wayne Indiana



71.2009.084.11454

On December 3, 1839, Abraham  
Lincoln Was Admitted To Prac=  
tice Law In The Federal Circuit  
Court At Springfield. S S S



It's them as take advantage that get advantage i'  
this world,

Eliot

JOHN T. STUART, senior partner of the firm of Stuart & Lincoln, having been duly elected as a member of the National House of Representatives, sojourned in Washington during the part of the year that Congress was in session. During a part of the time that he was busy in Washington wrestling with the problems of the commonwealth, the Federal Courts were in session back in his native Springfield. In order that the firm of Stuart & Lincoln could cater to the needs of its clientele, it was necessary that the junior partner be admitted to practice at the bar of that court. Thus on December 3, 1839, Abraham Lincoln was admitted to practice law in the United States Circuit Court at Springfield. This was the third step in his legal career. His original certificates enabled him to practice in Justice of the Peace and Circuit Courts.

Among others admitted to practice on the same day were Stephen A. Douglass, Charles Emneron and Samuel H. Treat, three men who were to be associated or opposed to Lincoln many times in the future. Douglass is of course, the most interesting of the trio. At the time he was admitted to practice in the Federal Court, he was certainly not the celebrity that Lincoln was, a condition he was soon to correct. His political career was limited to one term in the Legislature, from which he resigned. Indeed, he was to resign from the capacity of Secretary of State to become a Supreme Court Judge, resign from the judgeship to become a Congressman, resign from the lower house of Congress to become a Senator, and had hopes of resigning the Senatorship to become President but in this he was frustrated by Lincoln himself, more a technical than a

XX

hare but a fighting heart once he got the inside track.

Charles Emmerson was a lawyer from Decatur in Macon County and often parried or co-operated with Lincoln in legal jousts on the Lincoln Circuit. He was later to serve a term in the Legislature and 14 years as a circuit judge.

Samuel H. Treat, served as circuit judge on the Lincoln Circuit and also as a Supreme Court judge for more than a score of years.

Like other governmental departments, the Federal Court made its Springfield debut in emergency quarters. The Christian Church building was placed at the court's disposal. This building was erected in 1834. It stood on Madison Street between Fourth and Fifth, some two blocks north of the State House site. Early in 1841 the Court moved to more or less permanent quarters in the Tinsley Building.

Once admitted, Lincoln began a long and enviable career in the Federal Courts, as records of legal precedent will attest. In these courts he was pitted against the best legal talent in the state, since lawyers from every part of the state met here. Steadily expanding his practice to include all manner of law cases, Lincoln was slowly but surely acquiring that keen sense of direction that was to carry him through the four turbulent years for which fate destined him.

THEODORE S. CHARNNEY

The earliest record of this event is a picture of the Christian Church in Springfield where the Federal Courts first met. Prepared by the POOR RICHARD PRESS, 5053 Montana Street, Chicago, Illinois.

XX





If you have a gift problem in the person of some Lincolnian with a taste for the unusual or perhaps a stamp collector with a flare for covers, we know of nothing more appropriate than a subscription to the Abraham Lincoln Series of Commemorative Covers. The 1940 Calendar is now ready.

Recipients of gift subscriptions will be notified with a holiday card mailed under cover of our December 16th or 26th cachet.

The Poor Richard Press

5053 Montana Street

Chicago Illinois





# Calendar of 1940 Events

<b>FEBRUARY 1, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On February 1, 1840, The First Number Of <i>The Old Soldier</i> , A Whig Campaign Newspaper Was Published At Springfield. Abraham Lincoln Was One Of The Editors.	<b>Mailed from Springfield, Illinois</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 3, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On February 3, 1840, The Illinois Legislature Adjourned Its First Springfield Session. Abraham Lincoln Was A Member Of That Body.	<b>Mailed from Springfield, Illinois</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 10, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On February 10, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Was In Attendance At A Whig "Festival" In Peoria.	<b>Mailed from Peoria, Illinois</b>
<b>FEBRUARY 12, 1940</b> [Inscription] The One Hundred And Thirty-First Anniversary Of The Birth Of Abraham Lincoln.	<b>Mailed from Springfield, Illinois</b>
<b>MARCH 14, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On March 14, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Was Nominated A Candidate To The Legislature By The Sangamon County Convention At Springfield.	<b>Mailed from Springfield, Illinois</b>
<b>MARCH 17, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On March 17, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Took Part In A Political Debate At Jacksonville.	<b>Mailed from Jacksonville, Illinois</b>
<b>APRIL 6, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On April 6, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Delivered A Political Address At A Whig Rally In Carlinville.	<b>Mailed from Carlinville, Illinois</b>
<b>APRIL 9, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On April 9, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Delivered A Political Address At Alton.	<b>Mailed from Alton, Illinois</b>
<b>APRIL 11, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On April 11, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Delivered A Political Address At A Whig Rally In Belleville.	<b>Mailed from Belleville, Illinois</b>
<b>APRIL 20, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On April 20, 1840, The Springfield Town Council, Of Which Abraham Lincoln Was A Member, Held Its Last Meeting.	<b>Mailed from Springfield, Illinois</b>
<b>MAY 2, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On May 2, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Took Part In A Political Debate At Tremont.	<b>Mailed from Tremont, Illinois</b>
<b>JUNE 3, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On June 3, 1840, The Young Men's Whig Convention Was Held At Springfield. Abraham Lincoln Was A Prominent Figure At The Convention.	<b>Mailed from Springfield, Illinois</b>
<b>JUNE 6, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On June 6, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Made His First Appearance In The Illinois Supreme Court At Springfield.	<b>Mailed from Springfield, Illinois</b>
<b>JUNE 27, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On June 27, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Delivered A Political Address At Shelbyville.	<b>Mailed from Shelbyville, Illinois</b>
<b>JULY 20, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On July 20, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Took Part In A Political Debate At Springfield.	<b>Mailed from Springfield, Illinois</b>
<b>AUGUST 3, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On August 3, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Was Elected To The Illinois Legislature.	<b>Mailed from Springfield, Illinois</b>
<b>AUGUST 25, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On August 25, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Took Part In A Political Debate At Waterloo.	<b>Mailed from Waterloo, Illinois</b>
<b>AUGUST 28, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On August 28, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Took Part In A Political Debate At Mount Vernon.	<b>Mailed from Mt. Vernon, Illinois</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 5, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On September 5, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Took Part In A Political Debate At Shawneetown.	<b>Mailed from Shawneetown, Illinois</b>
<b>SEPTEMBER 17, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On September 17, 1840, Abraham Lincoln Delivered A Harrison Campaign Speech At Equality.	<b>Mailed from Equality, Illinois</b>
<b>NOVEMBER 23, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On November 23, 1840, The Illinois Legislature Convened At Springfield. Abraham Lincoln Was A Member Of That Body.	<b>Mailed from Springfield, Illinois</b>
<b>DECEMBER 5, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On December 5, 1840, The Notable Rain Pipe Episode Took Place At Springfield. Abraham Lincoln Was A Participant In The Ludicrous Affair.	<b>Mailed from Springfield, Illinois</b>
<b>DECEMBER 7, 1940</b> [Inscription] One Hundred Years Ago, On December 7, 1840, The House Of Representatives Began Its Second Session In The Newly Built State House At Springfield. Abraham Lincoln Was A Member Of That Body.	<b>Mailed from Springfield, Illinois</b>

The inscriptions given above represent the exact wording to be used on the face of each cover along with the pictorial cachet. The price for each cover and its enclosures is 10 cents, payable in advance. When orders are received three days in advance of mailing dates given above, covers will be mailed direct to the addressee, franked with 3 cent commemorative stamps. Orders received less than three days in advance of the mailing dates given above or after the mailing dates will be filled with covers addressed in erasible pencil to the Poor Richard Press or its agents. Such covers are franked with 1½ cent stamps. We urge subscribers to place there orders in advance of mailing dates when possible, so that they can avail themselves of the colorful commemorative stamps which add greatly to the interest of the covers. Back issues of past dates can be supplied at 10 cents each during the year 1940, as long as the supply lasts. Unmailed, or mint covers, can be supplied if desired at 5 cents each. Covers with destinations in foreign countries [except North America] and Air Mail in the United States will be handled for 15 cents per cover. Remittances should be made in coin, currency, money order or checks drawn on Chicago banks. Checks drawn on Out of Town Banks should include 10 cents additional for exchange.

THE POOR RICHARD PRESS  
5053 Montana Street  
Chicago, Illinois

Kindly enter my subscription for the number of cachets I have marked above, for which I enclose \$.....

Name.....

Address.....

City and State.....